

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 36 has been added. The support for claim 36 is found in the previously presented claim 22. Accordingly, this Response does not introduce any new matter into the instant disclosure.

In the Restriction Requirement of February 9, 2009, the Examiner indicated that claims 22-28 and 34 are subject to the Restriction Requirements. Applicants respectfully note that claim 34 was previously withdrawn and claim 35 was added. Accordingly, Applicants interpret the requirement as applied to claims 22-28 and 35. If this interpretation is incorrect, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number below.

In the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner requested the Applicants to elect one of the indications listed in claim 22, namely, “dysfunction of the endometrium, decidua, miscarriage, intra-uterine growth retardation, preeclampsia, or premature birth or onset of labor.” See Restriction Requirement at 2.

Applicants elect “dysfunction of the endometrium” without traverse. Claims 22-28 and 35, 36 read on the elected species. The Examiner is also respectfully reminded of the duty to consider non-elected species in the Markush group once the elected species free of art. MPEP § 803.02.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that they have fully responded to the Examiner's concerns and the application is now ready for the examination on merits. However, if the Examiner does not believe that such action is possible, he is invited to call the undersigned at (609) 844-3020.

Please charge any deficiency and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1943. Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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